

Message Text

MRN: 1975BONN 018779 SEGMENT NUMBER: 000001 ERROR READING TEXT INDEX
FILE; TELEGRAM TEXT FOR THIS SEGMENT IS UNAVAILABLE
ADP000
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73
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 EB-07 OMB-01 H-02 AS-01 NSC-05 /074 W
----- 048933

R 172047Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4456
INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USNMR SHAPE
USLO SACLANT
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN
USDEL MC BRUSSELS
CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18779

GERMAN ARMED FORCES.

BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE
SYSTEM, MANN SAID THE FRG BELIEVED THAT THERE HAD TO BE
A FULL NATO COMMITMENT TO THE SYSTEM. HE SAID THAT IN
RECENT YEARS IT HAD BECOME CUSTOMARY AMONG SOME NATO
NATIONS TO ASSUME THAT, SINCE GERMANY WAS ON THE FRONT
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LINE, GERMANY COULD ALWAYS BE RELIED UPON TO INITIATE ARMS PURCHASES AND TO PAY THE BULK OF THE COSTS OF NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS. OF COURSE, GERMANY WAS PREPARED TO DO HER SHARE. BUT THE DECISION TO PURCHASE AWACS SHOULD NOT BE A DECISION MADE BY ONE OR TWO OR EVEN SEVERAL NATO ALLIES.

3. THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR MADE THE VARIOUS POINTS IN REFTEL, STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE THAT WE PLACED UPON SOME AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE DURING THE NATO MINISTERIAL AND POINTING OUT THAT AN INITIAL PARTICIPATION WOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS A COMMITMENT TO FULL PURCHASE (PARAS A 8, AND D L OF REFTEL). SECRETARY MANN REACTED POSITIVELY TO THESE TWO POINTS AND SAID THE GERMANS WOULD ATTEMPT TO REACH A DECISION IN TIME FOR THE MINISTERIAL.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION FROM MANN'S REMARKS THAT THE GERMANS DO NOT NEED TO BE SOLD ON THE FORMIDABLE TECHNICAL CAPACITIES OF THE NEW SYSTEM BUT THAT THEIR PRINCIPAL CONCERNS ARE FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR PRESENTATIONS AT VARIOUS LEVELS BUT IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT, IF THE GERMANS ARE TO BE PERSUADED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SYSTEM, THEY WILL PLACE HIGH VALUE ON HAVING ALL NATO NATIONS SUPPORT IT. WE HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN HEARING FROM THE GERMANS THE FEAR THAT NATO MAY BECOME A US-GERMAN SHOW WITH DIFFERENT ALLIES ONLY SUPPORTING SELECTED ELEMENTS OF THE NATO DEFENSE SYSTEM, AND IT APPEARS TO US THAT THESE CONCERNS ARE HAVING SOME IMPACT ON GERMAN THINKING WITH REGARD TO AWACS.
HILLENBRAND

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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM (AWACS)
TAGS: OCON, MILI, NATO
To: SECSTATE WASHDC NATO BRUSSELS USNMR SHAPE USLO SACLANT CINC EUR VAIHINGEN CINCLANT NORFOLK BRUSSELS CINC
USAFE RAMSTEIN
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